

FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY TEAM

2002-2003 Plan of Work

S / *ROBERT D. MANGOLD* /
DIRECTOR
FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION
May 31, 2002

FOREST HEALTH PROTECTION INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY TEAM

2002-2003 Program of Work

INTRODUCTION

A Forest Health Protection International Activity Plan guides Forest Health Protection (FHP) international activities nationally. The Plan recognizes that FHP specialists should maintain a level of involvement at the international level. Many exotic insects, diseases, and plants threaten the health of our native forests. Trade agreements, the ease of travel between countries, and increased demands worldwide on forest resources, all result in a need for FHP to remain actively involved in the international arena. In addition, we share common borders with Canada and Mexico, which results in common insect and disease concerns.

The Goals identified in the FHP International Activity Plan are:

- Goal 1.** U.S. Forests are protected from exotic pests
- Goal 2.** North American countries have strong forest pest management programs
- Goal 3.** Biological control options are in place to protect U.S. forests from exotic pests
- Goal 4.** Forest health technology and expertise are shared worldwide

As part of that Plan, an International Activity Team (IAT) was established to manage the international activities for the Washington Office FHP, and assure that the goals were being met nationally. One of the responsibilities of the IAT is to develop a periodic national FHP International Activity Plan of Work. This document is the 2002-2003 Plan of Work. It is recognized that there are ongoing contributions of each Region/NA; and that there are areas where FHP is active internationally above and beyond the focus of the IAT. These include ongoing cooperation with China and Russia, and the Pest Risk Assessment Program. This Plan identifies focus and actions that should occur if we are to continue to achieve progressive accomplishments within the goals.

Emphasis areas in the POW will address the goals for protecting U.S. forests from exotic pests. These areas are, 1) Emphasizing the cooperation and assistance to Brazil for detection and biological control of *Sirex noctilio*, 2) Provide assistance to Mexico., and 3) Continue professional development.

It is intended that this Plan will be flexible and will be reviewed periodically to determine accomplishments in priority areas and adjust as necessary

2002-2003 Program of Work - Goals and Objectives

GOAL 1. U.S. FORESTS ARE PROTECTED FROM EXOTIC PESTS

OBJECTIVES:

1. Assure regulatory laws, policies, and programs protect our forest resources.
2. Continue to support regulatory programs.

Action:

- a. Continue to coordinate and work with APHIS and Russian entomologists on Russian Far Eastern ports Asian Gypsy Moth monitoring program.
 - negotiate new agreement
 - extend program to include monitoring for pink gypsy moth and nun moth
 - continue funding assistance at same level
 - b. As members of the USDA Forest Service Wood Import Risk Assessment and Mitigation Evaluation team, provide technical support to APHIS.
 - complete pest risk assessment for eucalyptus from Australia (2002)
 - prepare pest risk assessment for radiata pine from Australia (2003)
3. Identify/develop technologies that can be used to protect U.S. forests.

GOAL 2. NORTH AMERICAN COUNTRIES HAVE STRONG FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

OBJECTIVES:

1. The three North American countries have strong policies for protecting forests.

2. The countries have programs and technology to implement the policies.

Action: *IAT Emphasis Area for 2002-2003 - Mexico*

- a. Continue to provide assistance to Mexico in developing their aerial detection survey program through assistance in training.
- b. Provide technical assistance to Mexico in establishing a Forest Health Monitoring program.
- c. Participate, coordinate and assist in developing and implementing insect and disease and forest health management technologies and projects, such as:
 - technologies for cone beetle control;
 - assistance with detecting and controlling forest insects and diseases,
 - Sierra Fria forest management plan
 - Assist in publication of "Diseases of Mexico"

GOAL 3. BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OPTIONS ARE IN PLACE TO PROTECT U.S. FORESTS FROM EXOTIC PESTS

OBJECTIVES:

1. Increase our knowledge of biological control.
2. Identify options for biological control.
3. Develop and implement biological control programs.

Action:

-Primarily through FHTET, develop and identify natural control enemies, and develop biological control programs for non-native introduces species, such as Mile-a-Minute weed, pink hibiscus and papaya mealy bugs, Japanese knotweed, and hemlock woolly adelgid.

GOAL 4. FOREST HEALTH TECHNOLOGY AND EXPERTISE ARE SHARED WORLDWIDE

OBJECTIVES:

1. Professional development, training and experience are available to all forest health protection personnel.

Action: *IAT Emphasis Area for 2002–2003 – Professional development*

- a. The IAT will create an interest and skills database of FHP folks nationwide.
- b. The IAT will set aside funding, identify or coordinate opportunities, and actively recruit for participation in international activities.

2. Provide technical assistance to other countries as requested.

Action:

- Will respond to requests for assistance as appropriate and if funding is available

3. Form partnerships and collaborations to develop technologies, coordinate pest management programs and share information with other countries.

Action: *IAT Emphasis Area 2002-2003 – Brazil- Sirex noctilio project*

- a. Continue to provide assistance in developing an aerial sketch-map survey and training program.
- b. Complete classification and accuracy of LANDSAT imagery leading to a host type map.
- c. Continue monitoring and evaluation of biological control activities including rearing, inoculations, and trap tree establishment.
- d. Establish a bilingual website with Sirex publications and papers.
- e. Review and evaluate accomplishments of three year program (2003)

Action:

- In cooperation with International Programs, continue to participate on the Forest Service China Coordination Team to develop opportunities for cooperative research and technology development, technical information exchange, and program development.